

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted to correct a minor typographic error in the specification and to provide drawing sheets 5 through 8 representing Figures 5 through 8 that correspond to the description provided in the above-captioned application.

The Assignee acknowledges receipt of a Notice of Omitted Items mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) on April 9, 2004. The Assignee hereby accepts the application as originally deposited and the filing date of September 23, 2003 assigned at that time.

Assignee asserts that no new matter has been added as a result of this amendment. As this application has not as yet been assigned to an Examiner as indicated by the PTO's secure PAIR access as of April 13, 2004 and as its status is indicated as "Application Undergoing Preexam Processing", Assignee asserts that this amendment will not unduly interfere with the preparation of a first Office Action, and therefore, should be entered.

The specification has been amended in the Brief Description of the Drawings section to correct a typographic error. The last brief description relates to Figure 8 rather than Figure 6, and the amendment fixes this clear typographic error.

Drawing sheets 5 through 8 have been provided. The depicted Figures 5 through 8 would clearly be supported by the disclosure of the present application. Brief descriptions of these drawings are found on page 5 of the specification at lines 7 through 12. The structures disclosed in Figure 5 are clearly described in the specification on page 18, line 6 through page 20, line 21. The elements of the data flow diagram appearing in Figure 6 are provided in the specification on page 18, line 25 through page 19, line 8. The elements of the data flow diagram appearing in Figure 7 are provided in the specification on page 19, line 17 through page 20, line 3. The

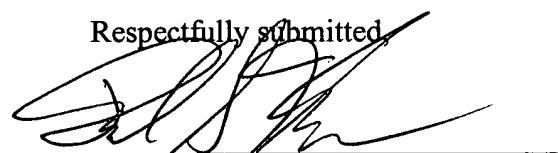
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elements of the data flow diagram appearing in Figure 8 are provided in the specification on page 20, lines 13 through 21. These drawings would be apparent and clearly supported to those skilled in the art based upon the portions of the specification cited hereinabove; as a consequence, assignee asserts that no new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if such contact would assist in the further prosecution of this case.

As no claims have been added to the application by this amendment, the Assignee respectfully submits that no additional fees are due or otherwise result from the filing of the instant Preliminary Amendment. If, however, the Commissioner believes that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such additional fee(s) from, or credit any fee overpayment(s) to Jones Day's Deposit Account No. 502724, ref: 687197-615001.

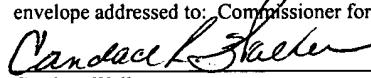
Respectfully submitted,

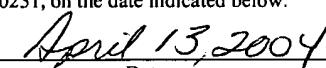


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I hereby certify that this paper and four drawing sheets are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.


Candace Walker


April 13, 2004
Date